

Less food to go around

Zooplankton changes affect the entire Pacific marine food web

Warm ocean temperatures have changed the zooplankton community. This has consequences for the entire Pacific marine food web. Fewer nutritious northern zooplankton and increases in less nutritious, warm-water zooplankton can threaten fish, seabirds and the entire marine food web

COLD WATER YEARS

Northern zooplankton species dominant

Seabirds

Cassin's auklets grow more quickly with more energy-rich zooplankton in their diets

Forage fish

Herring and other forage fishes are large, abundant and healthy

Predatory fish

Fish such as salmon are larger and have more successful reproduction

Marine mammals

Mammals such as Resident Killer Whales, seals, sea lions, and humpback whales are healthier and have more successful reproduction

WARM WATER YEARS

Southern zooplankton species dominant

Seabirds

Cassin's auklets may be harmed by poorer quality food

Forage fish

Size and abundance of herring and other forage fishes can fall.

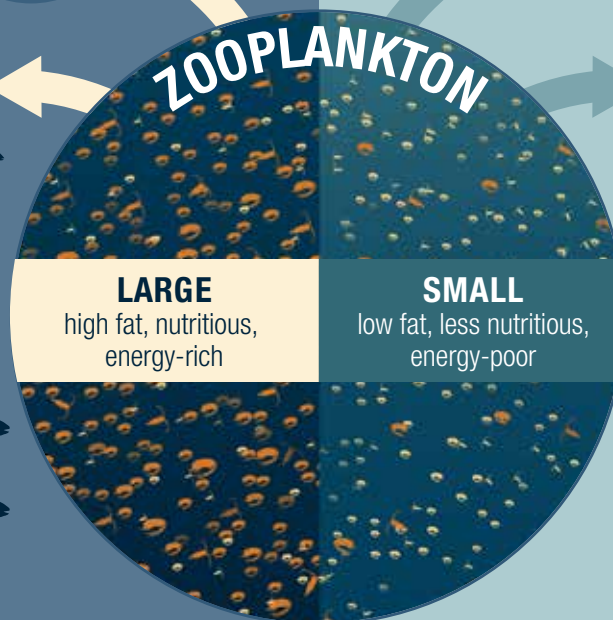
Survival and growth of small fish and young salmon are negatively affected

Predatory fish

Food web changes affect the survival of predatory fishes — fish are smaller and less successful at reproduction

Marine mammals

Less food means poorer body condition, less successful reproduction



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